

# Exploring Tamil in Tamilnadu

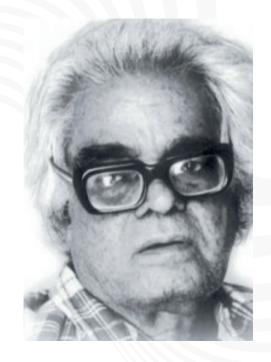


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## KA.NAA.SUBRAMANYAM

Ka. Naa. Subramanyam, born in 1912, remains an iconic figure in Tamil literature. His novels like "Poi Thevu," "Oru Naal," "Asuraganam," and "Pithappoo," marks a wave of experimental writing that showcased his versatility and innovation. As a literary polymath, Subramanyam's oeuvre spans novels, short stories, essays, and translations.

Subramanyam's translations, including works by George Orwell, Knut Hamsun, and Albert Camus, highlight his dedication to bridging cultural divides. His novels, "Oru Naal," "Asuraganam," and "Pithappoo," are innovative departures from conventional norms, exploring new narrative styles with a psychological depth akin to Carl Jung and Freud. His writings, characterized by a philosophical and psychological style, continue to be studied and celebrated. As a pioneer, he inspires successive generations of writers and critics, leaving an indelible mark on the literary landscape of TamilNadu.



Awards – Sahitya Akademi Award, Government of TamilNadu state award

Outstanding works – Poi Thevu, Vaazhdhavar Kettal, Asuraganam

#### ASURAGANAM

"Asuraganam" follows the psychological tumult within Raman, navigating early maternal loss, suppressed desires, and existential questions. Departing from a simple Ramayana retelling, the novel incorporates Freudian and Oedipus psychology. Raman's eccentric yet profound journey unfolds through contemplative walks, illuminating his exploration of human existence. Initiated by existential queries, the narrative prompts profound reflections on life and death.

Despite being labeled eccentric, Raman emerges as an intellectually gifted thinker, grappling with self-control, obsession, and fantasy to evade his father's traits. His self-centered perspective, tinged with self-pity, raises doubts about recovery, leading to a fixation on a woman symbolizing a mother figure, aligning with Freudian philosophy. The novel subtly explores kinship and the quest to overcome paternal traits, drawing parallels with characters from Ramayana. With a micro-reading approach, it navigates moral complexities, challenging traditional narratives. Ka. Naa.Subramanyam's adept storytellingensures "Asuraganam" stands as a timeless exploration of human experiences, moral dilemmas, and the enduring impact of early trauma on the psyche.



Novel. 110 p. 1959 World rights available Copyright with Govt of TN

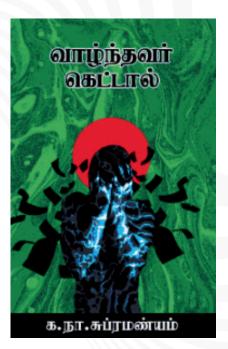
Key theme: Psychological journey of Raman exploring trauma, desires, and existence complexities

## RICHES TO RAGS

(VAAZHNTHAVAR KETTAL)

"Vaazhnthavar Kettal" is a poignant novella set in 1930s Tanjore. The narrator, revisiting after a decade, stays with his friend Raghu, a widower. They relive school memories, explore Tanjore, and frequent eateries.Intrigue arises when Raghu vehemently refuses a particular route, only to confront and curse a man from Mammaliyaar, once wealthy but now destitute. The narrator learns of a similar encounter at a coffee shop involving Mammaliyaar boys who couldn't pay the bill.

He then learns the societal prejudices against the Mammaliyaars who face malicious judgment for their financial downfall. As the novella unfolds, it takes us into human psychology, exploring prejudice, preconceived notions, guilt, and the impact of unfulfilled desires on one's psyche. The narrative, akin to a detective thriller, reveals the feud between Raghu and the Mammaliyaars, prompting readers to contemplate whether a life marred by embarrassment and misery is worse than death. Subramanyam skillfully navigates the complexities of the human mind in this thought-provoking novella.



Novella. 82 p. 1951 World rights available Copyright with Govt of TN

Key theme: Raghu's feud with Mammaliyaar, narrates the societal prejudice.

#### DECEPTIVE DEITY

(POI THEVU)

"Poi Thevu" narrates the journey of Somu's rise and fall. Amid childhood echoes of temple bells and storms, Somu fixates on wealth, serving the local landlord Ranga Rayar. The narrative navigates his relentless pursuit of money, climaxing in a desire to claim Sathanur village. Expertly portraying social relations, the novel spans diverse castes, from Brahmins to marginalized, depicting hierarchical power structures.

In contrast to characters like Ranga and Sambamurthy, whose spiritual strength shines amid challenges, Somu's wealth pursuit leads to unfulfillment, underscoring the absence of soul power.

By deliberately focusing on thugs and depressed classes,

the narrative amplifies the voices from society's fringes, reflecting the author's concern for their welfare. By centering on characters from society's periphery, the novel becomes a vessel for exploring multifaceted layers, exposing power dynamics, and challenging preconceived notions about whose stories merit attention in the broader historical and societal tapestry.



Novel. 296 p. 1946 World rights available Copyright with Govt of TN

Key theme: Somu's relentless pursuit of wealth unveils societal power dynamics intricately.

# THE SHATTERED BLOOM

#### (PITHAPOO)

"Pithapoo," examines the intricacies of mental disorder through Thiagarajan's life, presenting a unique exploration within a village milieu. The narrative, initially complex with numerous families, adds depth to storytelling. Rooted in a real-life encounter, the novel unravels Thiagarajan's mental health struggles, evoking a palpable fear and prompting reflection on vulnerability to such disorders. The central ambiguity surrounding Thiagarajan's condition raises profound questions about its origins.

His early interest in painting introduces an additional layer, hinting at potential sources of frustration and unfulfilled desires. The novel challenges stigmas around mental disorders, compelling readers to confront uncertainties and offering nuanced perspectives. Thiagarajan's encounters with the author unveil pivotal insights into his past, rendering "Pithapoo" a compelling and insightful narrative on the intricate nuances of mental health that urges a reconsideration of societal perspectives.



Novel. 96 p. World rights available Copyright with Govt of TN

Key theme: Thiagarajan's mentalstruggles challenge stigmas, compelling a reconsideration of societal perspectives.

## T.RAJAN

Rajan.T, a Tamil writer hailing from Tirunelveli, born in March 1989, is a literary voice deeply invested in unraveling the intricate tapestry of societal complexities. His literary repertoire includes "Pazhaya Kurudi," a captivating collection of short stories, and "Kathaiyum Punaivum," a thoughtprovoking dialogue with Ba. Venkatesan on the art of fiction. Renowned for his insightful translations of philosophical treatises, such as Sundar Sarukkai's "Siruvarkalukkana Thaththuvam" and Savita Ambedkar's "Babasaheb: My Life with Dr. Ambedkar," Rajan.T demonstrates a commitment to bridging intellectual and literary realms.

His writing, a poignant reflection of the multifaceted challenges confronting contemporary society, is characterized by a sincere endeavor to comprehend the intricate web of social problems, crises, and contradictions. Rajan.T firmly believes that fiction transcends mere emotional expression, serving as a powerful medium for intellectual discourse rooted in lived experiences. Amidst the tumultuous landscape of social and political upheaval, his literary journey unfolds as a subtle yet profound exploration of the human condition, offering readers a nuanced perspective on the complexities of life.



#### Outstanding works- Pazhaya Kurudi. Translated work-"Babasaheb: My Life with Dr. Ambedkar."

#### PAZHAYA KURUDI

Here's an alternative style with modulation for the provided text: "Pazhaya Kurudi" is a collection of five unconventional short stories that delve into the societal fissures surrounding women, caste, and ingrained prejudices. "Mammals (Paalutigal)" – a poignant tale - follows a lone bat, its presence triggering an introspective journey into the past, revealing the intricate connection between urbanization and the erosion of traditional beliefs. "Vincent's Room" explores the isolating experience of a college student, grappling with bullying and societal expectations of masculinity. His feminine nature, a source of torment, remains a complex enigma, even to those who strive to understand him.

"Pazhaya Kurudi" poignantly unfolds the struggles of a man desperately concealing his caste in the bustling metropolis of Chennai. Drawing unsettling parallels between the COVID-19 outbreak and the resurgence of ageold prejudices, the story serves as a stark reminder of the enduring nature of social divisions. "Aroobi" – a haunting narrative - explores the intergenerational trauma stemming from a mother's tragic demise. The story delves into the insidious nature of inappropriate relationships and their enduring impact on subsequent generations.



Novella. 167p. 2022. Ethir veliyeedu ISBN 9789390811175 World rights available Author holds the copyright

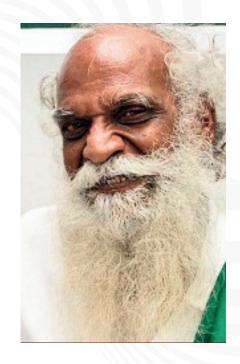
Key theme: Perpetuation of social inequalities and the challenges of overcoming them

### G. NAMMALVAR

G Nammalvar was one of a kind, a messigh of farmers who was revered as a saint-teacher by his followers. He was an agriculture scientist, dedicated his life to championing organic farming and sustainable agriculture practices. Leaving behind a promising career in conventional agriculture, he embarked on a mission to educate farmers across Tamil Nadu about the detrimental effects of chemical fertilizers and the benefits of eco-friendly methods. Through simple storytelling and practical demonstrations, he inspired countless farmers to adopt organic farming, transforming their livelihoods and contributing to a healthier environment. Nammalvar's unwavering commitment to sustainable practices earned him widespread recognition

G. Nammazhvar was the author of several Tamil and English books on natural farming, natural pesticides & natural fertilizers and was featured in magazines & television programs.

he actively participated in tsunami relief efforts in India and Indonesia. Awarded a Doctorate of Science, Nammalvar remains an inspiration for sustainable agriculture.



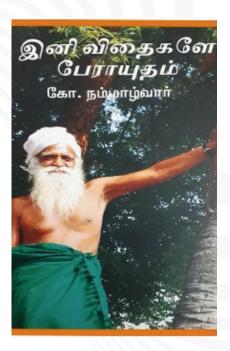
G.Nammalvar is considered as Father of Organic Farming in Tamilnadu

# SEEDS ARE THE WEAPONS OF THE FUTURE

(INI VITHAIGALAI PERAYUDHAM)

Ini Vithaigalai Perayudham" by K. Nammalvar is a powerful narrative focused on the preservation of indigenous agriculture and local seed varieties. In the face of globalized agriculture and the introduction of genetically modified seeds, the book highlights the profound significance of native seeds for the sustainability of farming and food security. Through insightful discussions and practical knowledge, Nammalvar emphasizes the need for a return to traditional farming practices that are both environmentally sustainable and culturally enriching.

The book explores the role of farmers in safeguarding biodiversity and the vital connection between human beings and nature. It advocates for a shift away from chemical farming and a reliance on organic methods, aiming to inspire a collective movement towards selfsufficiency and ecological balance. By tracing the roots of agricultural practices and their impact on society, "Ini Vithaigalai Perayudham" urges readers to reconsider their approach to food production, focusing on sustainability, health, and the future of generations to come.



Non Fiction 95p. 2019. Iyal Vagai Publishers World rights available Publisher holds the copyright

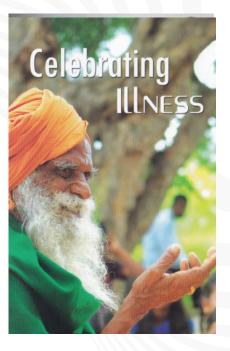
Key theme: Highlighting the connection between farmers, biodiversity, and cultural heritage Ecology / Agriculture

#### CELEBRATING ILLNESS

(NOYINAI KONDAADUVOM)

Our bodies are imbued with innate wisdom, knowing precisely what they require to thrive. They communicate their needs through hunger, thirst, and sleep, among other signals. When energy wanes, hunger calls for nourishment; when dehydrated, thirst demands hydration; and when weary, the body seeks rest. Such is the intelligence of our physical forms. We often shower attention on those who are ill, constantly inquiring about their ailments, even if they've forgotten about them. This inadvertent behavior suggests that illness is the surest way to garner attention. We celebrate illness, while neglecting to acknowledge and appreciate the simple joy of good health

The author confesses to this tendency, recalling neglecting a friend during her wellness despite her many invitations. The message is clear: while offering support to the unwell is important, it's equally crucial to cherish and celebrate the health and happiness of those around us. By dedicating time to appreciate their well-being, we not only strengthen our relationships but also provide an extra boost to their overall happiness and health.



Non Fiction 30p. Iyal Vagai Publishers World rights available English / Tamil available Publisher holds the copyright

Key theme: The body possesses an inherent wisdom and effectively communicates its needs

#### DR. A. IRUDAYARAJ

Dr. A. Irudayaraj has specialized in media and mass communication. He has been actively engaged in mass communication ministry for the past 25 years. He has conducted media literacy programme for school and college students, teachers, social activists, etc. Has written more than 20 books on media, film criticism, anthropology, social issues, special economic zones etc. He also has a long experience of editing a media magazine which brings out an in-depth article on media issues.

He took his doctorate from Periyar University, Salem on the theme, " The role of social media in the construction of online identity among college-going youth in Tamil Nadu". He has a wider contact with media professionals and film artists. This helps him develop a unique way of interacting with the media industry and contribute to the critical analysis of films. He writes a column regularly in mainstream newspapers and journals. He has penned 22 books so far on various themes.



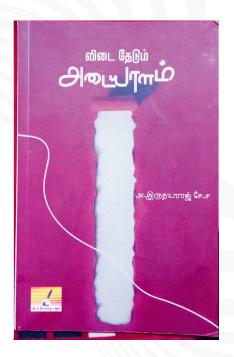
Awards: Ilakkiaya Selvar Award from Catholic Writer's Association

#### IN SEARCH OF IDENTITY

VIDAI THEDUM ADAIYALAM

This book is a collection of articles written on human interest themes. These articles take stock of current issues, problems, and events that directly or indirectly affect the common interests of ordinary people. It covers a range of themes such as politics, economics, anthropology, Dalits and Tribals, assertion of subaltern identity etc. Each article begins with empirical data that raises serious questions connected to the issue at hand and dwells on it deeply and makes an in-depth analysis giving possible solutions to the problem.

It makes the reader reflect on the theme, raise relevant questions, make proposals, and create debates and discussions. This book would be an excellent resource book for research students, social activists, teachers action groups etc. Since it covers a variety of themes that affect the interests of people in a particular state and is also applicable to the entire country.



Non Fiction 129p. 9789394260023 Sevvanam Publishers World rights available Author holds the copyright

Key theme: The importance of critical thinking, social awareness, and engagement with contemporary issues.

#### M. RAMANI

M. Ramani, an extraordinary presence in the realm of Children's Literature, embarked on her literary journey with the anthology "Yarukku Thaikka Theriyum," crafted specifically for young readers. Currently in the Ninth Standard, her parents' active involvement in literary pursuits fostered her love for storytelling. In 2022, she affirmed her status as an emerging literary force with the publication of "En peyar venil," illustrating her keen reading and prolific writing skills. In collaboration with her younger brother Ramana, they comanage the Children's magazine "Then Chittu," offering a creative platform for young minds.

Her familial background adds depth to her journey—her father operates a children's literature publication, underscoring the family's dedication to nurturing young minds. Furthermore, her mother, affiliated with the "Rail Vandi," Children's Storytelling Group, actively motivates children to immerse themselves in literary pursuits. In summary, M. Ramani stands as an inspiring figure in contemporary Children's Literature, contributing both as a writer and advocate for young readers, showcasing passion, creativity, and unwavering dedication.



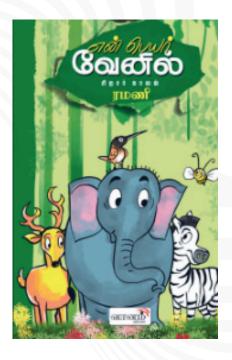
Ramani's stories are part of the Tamil Nadu State Board and Maharashtra Government school curricula.

# MY NAME IS VENIL

(EN PEYAR VENIL)

M. Ramani's debut children's novel, "En peyar venil," exemplifies a well structured narrative for young readers. The story unfolds with a unique concentration on a single line of events, introducing a crisis that gradually weaves a coherent web of characters leading to resolution without digression. The narrative commences with a honey bee named Venil in search of its lost beehive. Along the way, Venil befriends Mathi, a hummingbird, and together, they encounter Nathan, a Zebra trapped in a zoo. With the help of a Monkey, Nathan escapes, searching for his family.

The trio forms, joined by Themba, an Elephant who survived an elephant hunt, and collectively dubs themselves "Team Laddu." As the story progresses, the diverse group of animals demonstrates mutual rapport, aiding each other in the pursuit of harmony and coexistence. The friends' journey is filled with pranks and fun, showcasing their mutual compassion. Ultimately, Team Laddu reunites each member with their lost home and family, emphasizing the importance of togetherness for both human and animal species. Ramani narrates the story without unnecessary digressions, demonstrating an exemplary eye for unity of action and brevity of expression.



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Children's Fiction. 64 p. 2020. Vanam publications. 9788194588696. World rights available. Author holds the copyright.

"En peyar venil" is a classic children's novel that skillfully combines adventure, friendship, and the universal theme of togetherness.

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#### M. RAMANA

M. Ramana, a literary prodigy, embarked on his journey of "lisping in numbers' at the tender age of six. Surrounded by a family of storytellers and writers, his passion for storytelling bloomed early. Inspired by his participation in storytelling groups, he authored the captivating children's short novel, "Simba's Tour" (Simbavin suttrula) showcasing his remarkable talent. At just six years old, he achieved another milestone with the publication of "The Blue Angel" (Neela Devathai), a collection of stories crafted for children.

Currently in the fifth grade, Ramana not only excels in academics but also leads the helm of the children's magazine "Then Chittu" alongside his sister, Ramani, a fellow children's writer. Beyond his academic pursuits, Ramana indulges in his hobbies of reading, storytelling, and writing. His father, Mr. Manikandan, operates "Vanam," a publishing house dedicated to promoting children's literature in Tamil. Ramana's literary journey continues to unfold, promising a future filled with imaginative tales and literary contributions.



Other work- The Blue Angel'' (Neela Devathai)

## SIMBA'S TOUR

(SIMBAVIN SUTRULA)

Embark on 'Simba's Tour,' a mesmerizing tale where Simba, a lion, and Bharati, a boy, set out on a picnic. In a departure from traditional depictions of lions as jungle kings, Simba joyfully joins Bharati on a merry-go-round and shares playful moments with a girl named Vanitha. Through enchanting encounters, Simba forms bonds with the exotic denizens of the natural world. What makes this novella unique is its intricate intertextual tapestry, weaving characters from various children's literary texts.

Simba takes on the role of a young Odysseus, navigating a realm where animals, fantastic creatures, and beloved story characters come to life. Beyond exploring the timeless Quest Myth, the narrative introduces a pioneering genre in Tamil Children's Fiction-Young Eco-Fiction. Simba's enthusiasm for even the smallest aspects of nature reflects a universal human longing to connect with the natural world. 'Simba's Tour' becomes a metaphorical call to align with nature, addressing a contemporary need. This imaginative and inspiring novella introduces a new dimension in children's literature by seamlessly blending characters from diverse literary realms within Simba's entourage.



Children's Fiction. 64p. 2020. Vanam publications 9788193373499. World rights available Author holds the copyright

"Simbavin sutrula" explores nature's magic, interweaving literary characters in harmony.



# GLOBAL LITERARY AGENT TRAINING PROGRAM

The Tamil Nadu government's Global Literary Agent Training Program is a comprehensive initiative designed to equip literary agents with essential skills. Led by accomplished resource persons, the program covers diverse subjects crucial to the profession. Classes incorporate various activities, fostering practical insights and hands-on experience. Participants engage in interactive sessions, workshops, and case studies, gaining a nuanced understanding of global literary dynamics. Beyond traditional aspects like negotiation and rights management, the program addresses emerging trends and technologies. With a dynamic learning approach, it empowers literary agents to navigate the evolving landscape, ensuring they are adept at meeting the demands of the global literary market. A literary agent plays a pivotal role in securing translation grants, as they also oversee both inward and outward rights

# EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS. SECURE OUR GRANT

The Tamil Nadu Translation Grant Program, launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu, aims to promote Tamil literature worldwide and facilitate its broader reach. Through this program, non-Tamil publishers in India as well as foreign countries will be able to translate and publish Tamil titles into their languages, thus making these works accessible to readers everywhere.



SCAN FOR GRANTS

https://chennaiinternationalbookfair.com/tamilnadu-translation-grant/



# CERTIFIED GLOBAL LITERARY AGENT



Myself Samson, As a seasoned professional with a diverse background in journalism and strategic consulting, I possess a unique understanding of the evolving media landscape. My career has involved working across various fields and domains, fostering a deep understanding of the evolving media landscape. A lifelong passion for Tamil literature fuels my dedication to representing authors and cultivating meaningful connections with international publishers. This year marks my inaugural participation in international book fairs, an exciting step in my journey to connect and bridging a gap between authors with publishers in the global literary market.



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